THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU): (a) In Gujarat, 152 principal market yards and 208 sub-market yards were in operation till 31-3-1992. Generally, each principal market yard is looked after by an APMC set up under the State Act.

(b) to (d) As per the decision of the National Develoment Council (NDC) the Centrally Sponsored Schemes for development of markets have been transferred to the State sector w.e.f. 1-4-1992.

**Implementation of old age pension scheme**

2430. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the old age pension scheme funded by Government has been implemented; and

(b) if so, the number of people in each State who got old age pension under this scheme during the year 1996-97?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU): (a) and (b) The National Old Age Pension Scheme (NOAPS) is being implemented throughout the country since 15.8.1995. During 1996-97, 4381712 persons have benefited under this scheme. A Statement showing the number of beneficiaries benefited in each State during 1996-97 is given in the Statement. (*See* below).

**Statement**

SCHEME : NOAPS

YEAR : 1996-97

| Sr. No. | States/UTs | No. of Benef. |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Andhra Pradesh | 514946 |
| 2 | Arunachal Pradesh | 278 |
| 3 | Assam | 44393 |
| 4 | Bihar | 652872 |
| 5 | Goa | 1006 |
| 6 | Gujarat | 102575 |
| 7 | Haryana | 37700 |
| 8 | Himachal Pradesh | 10657 |
| 9 | J & K | 22719 |
| 10 | Karnataka | 692263 |
| 11 | Kerala | 77169 |
| 12 | Madhya Pradesh | 507931 |
| 13 | Maharashtra | 40983 |
| 14 | Manipur | 1971 |
| 15 | Meghalaya | 4435 |
| 16 | Mizoram | 1204 |
| 17 | Nagaland | 2074 |
| 18 | Orissa | 280760 |
| 19 | Punjab | 35429 |
| 20 | Rajasthan | 53176 |
| 21 | Sikkim | 800 |
| 22 | Tamilnadu | 297636 |
| 23 | Tripura | 5987 |
| 24 | Uttar Pradesh | 697828 |
| 25 | West Bengal | 282639 |
| 26 | A&N Islands | 6 |
| 27 | Chandigarh | NR |
| 28 | D&N Haveli | 286 |
| 29 | Daman & Diu | 138 |
| 30 | NCT Delhi | 10253 |
| 31 | Lakshadweep | 98 |
| 32 | Pondicherry | 1500 |
| | Total | 4381712 |

NR : Not Reported